how we can work together to develop and expand hemispheric and global trade and promote broader international cooperation.

We consulted on the development of a North American approach to the important issue of energy markets. Towards this end, our Energy Ministers have created a North American Energy Working Group. This technical-level forum will be a valuable means of fostering communication and coordinating efforts in support of efficient North American energy markets that help our governments meet the energy needs of our peoples. We stressed the importance of energy conservation, development of alternative energy sources, and our common commitment to addressing environmental impacts of energy use.

Migration is one of the major ties that bind our societies, with migrants making significant cultural and economic contributions. It is important that our policies reflect our values and needs, and that we achieve progress in dealing with this phenomenon. We are committed to ensuring dignified, humane treatment with appropriate legal protections, and defense of human rights for migrants. We will strengthen mechanisms for trilateral cooperation to address the legitimate needs of migrants and take effective measures against trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling.

We reviewed the extensive cooperation underway among our three governments in areas as diverse as transportation, communications, health, justice, agriculture, and border issues. We discussed the growing links among citizens in our three countries and new partnerships in business, employment, education, travel, culture, and joint research.

These patterns of cooperation—by governments, business, and other members of civil society—are building a new sense of community among us. Our governments will review the trends, challenges, and opportunities facing North America at the dawn of a new century, and examine options to further strengthen our North American partnership. Conscious of the challenges we face but convinced of the need to seize the unprecedented opportunities before us, we encourage broad reflection in our societies on ways to advance the trilateral relationship.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks to the American Embassy Community in Quebec

April 22, 2001

Thank you. I used to call him Governor, I now call him Ambassador, I'll always call him friend. I appreciate you very much, Ambassador, and it's great to see your beautiful bride here, too.

I first want to say something about your immediate boss; that's the Secretary of State. As you're going to find out, he is a man who respects the job you do, a man who loves his country, a man who is going to be a fabulous Secretary of State for America. And I think the other three Cabinet Secretaries who are up here might do a pretty good job, too. [*Laughter*]

We've had a very interesting stay here in Quebec City. It turns out that Quebec City has now hosted three history-making summits. The first two in 1943 and 1944 involved only three world leaders. Therefore, they had it in one hotel. [*Laughter*] This one was a little more complex, it turns out. [*Laughter*]

When I see how much work it is to organize a Presidential visit, it surprises me sometimes that I'm welcome anywhere. [*Laughter*] And so, I want to thank you very much for the job the U.S. Mission did in preparing for our arrival, not only making sure that the arrival was well prepared, that when we're here, that it went smoothly, and it did, and you're to be congratulated.

We have no more important bilateral relationship than that with Canada. It's true the relationship doesn't always make the headlines in the United States. That's a good sign. [*Laughter*] Generally, when we make the news, it's because there is a dysfunctional relationship at hand. It shows what a good job you all are doing at relaying our priority to your fellow folks in the Foreign Service or civil service in Canada, that we care about our relationship, that America knows how important it is. And it's a vital relationship.

As the Ambassador noted, the statistics are strong—200 million border crossings a year. Canada is our biggest trading partner. Canada is the biggest exporter of energy to the United States. It's an important relationship. This administration will keep it that way, and I know you will join us in doing so.

I just finished an interesting luncheon with Prime Minister Jean Chretien and President Vicente Fox about how to expand the unique relationship our three countries have, called NAFTA, as you know. But it's an incredibly important relationship. I first came—became aware of the relationship as the Governor of Texas. I saw how important it was for us to understand that family values don't stop at the Rio Bravo River, that family values—that there are people in Mexico who are hungry and worry about their children, who, if they can make a better living somewhere else, will do so. Oftentimes it was in my State; occasionally it was in—more than occasionally it was in other people's State.

But I also saw the hope and promise of what trade could mean and good relations between the three of us. It meant better jobs in Mexico. It meant a mother or a dad might be able to find work closer to home, which is the aspiration of people in Mexico. It also means we've got to—it helps enable—to keep closer ties with Canada. And for that I'm grateful.

And so our discussions today was how to expand and strengthen NAFTA. And one way we can do so is through energy. America is short on energy; Canada is long on energy. America is short on energy; Mexico, with the right policy, could be long on energy. And so our discussions today were not only on other subjects but we talked about establishing an energy group for the hemisphere, which we will do.

And the reason I bring this up is that it's an indication of why this future—our relationship is just as strong in the future as it is today. And it makes eminent sense for us to continue to work with our friends and allies in our hemisphere.

I leave the summit very optimistic about what took place here, because I want you to think about this interesting fact. We had all but one country represented here, because all but one country in our hemisphere has embraced democracy. For some of you oldtimers—I'm trying to find a few—there looks like a guy who might be an oldtimer. [*Laughter*] You know, we couldn't have said that long ago. It's an amazing fact. It's a wonderful testimony to freedom and democracy. So I'm very optimistic about what took place here. It gives us a great chance to expand the opportunities around our hemisphere, knowing that it will help our own country.

I've always believed that it's—the best foreign policy is one that improves your own neighborhood first. And so when I say a priority of ours is this hemisphere, it's not idle chitchat; it's reality, as witnessed by the fact that my first summit was a summit with leaders from our own neighborhood.

I want to say something about your Ambassador. He is a—you'll find him to be a good listener, a strong American. He is going to be a thoughtful manager. He's really a good guy. He's a good guy. [*Laughter*] And he married, like me, above his head. [*Laughter*]

I, too, want to thank the Deputy Chief of Missions, Steve Kelly. I want to thank the acting—the Consul General in Quebec City. I want to thank Nick Nixon, as well. I want to thank Roberta Smolik—Robin Smolik—Robert Smolik. [*Laughter*] I want to thank the guy who wrote this on the card wrong. [*Laughter*] Knowing how the Presidency works, there's a card writer somewhere pulling his hair out now. [*Laughter*] I want to thank Marina Nalli. Did I get it right? [*Applause*]

I want to thank you all very much on the American side for your hard work. I also want to thank Rejjie Tremblay. He made sure I got to my meetings on time. [*Laughter*] I hope word has filtered out of Washington that I believe on starting meetings on time. [*Laughter*] I don't believe in making people wait. I want to make sure that Lori Fortin gets thanks, as well. Not one member of this huge delegation had to sleep on a couch, thanks to you. [*Laughter*] I want to thank Fred Bishop. He's known as Emergency Guy. [*Laughter*] He fixed problems before they became emergencies.

I want to tell you all how much I appreciate your service to the country. It's more than just making sure the mission works—

however, this mission worked well—it's to make sure the mission always works. I want to thank you for understanding that there is something greater than yourself in life, and that's the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:13 p.m. at the Loews le Concorde Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to U.S. Ambassador to Canada Paul Cellucci and his wife, Jan Garnett; Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada; President Vicente Fox of Mexico; and Lois Aroian, U.S. Consul General in Quebec.

Remarks Honoring the NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Champions

April 23, 2001

Welcome. Please be seated. This might be a long speech. [*Laughter*]

First of all, I want to welcome two great teams from two great universities. It is our honor to host you all here at the White House. I want to say congratulations to Coach K—the reason I call him Coach K is because sometimes I have trouble pronouncing long words—[*laughter*]—Coach McGraw, and the players and the representatives from Duke and Notre Dame, welcome.

I want to welcome two fine United States Senators: Senator Helms from North Carolina, Senator Lugar from Indiana. Members of the United States Congress who are here, thank you all for coming.

In reviewing the rosters and the success of this club, it is clear that both Duke and Notre Dame recruited for athletic talent, but they also recruited character, as well. These championships go to prove that good people do finish first.

It is such an honor to welcome Duke back here. It turns out that there was another President named Bush that welcomed the Duke team. And they dedicated a basketball court right here on the South Lawn during that visit. The weather has been such that I haven't been practicing my skyhook lately. [*Laughter*] Looking at the size of some of these guys, I'm not sure I want to try to do it now, anyway. [*Laughter*]

I know it took a lot of hard work to get here, and there were some very close games and tough contests, particularly the "Fighting Irish" in their final—in the final game won in the last second. I'm reminded about what Coach McGraw's son, Murphy, said as he watched the game. He said, "That was scary." Murphy, I know what you're talking about. It reminds me of election night. [*Laughter*]

There's no question that teams require good leadership. And I was struck by the quote of one of the stars here who said about Coach K—just to prove to the press I can say it—Coach Krzyzewski—[*laughter*]—"To me, he's been a friend, a mentor, and a brother. I am the luckier person for having him have me as a part of my life." That's what leadership is all about. That's what it means to be somebody who can set an example and somebody who understands the responsibilities of the assignment. It's not just to win championships; it's to shape lives in a positive way.

And I loved what Coach McGraw said. She said, "Usually there are negative things that occur during the season. But this year I've had not to call a single team meeting; I've gotten no complaints from professors. We can't even yell at the players, because they do everything we ask." I need your help with Congress. [*Laughter*]

Championships bring an awesome responsibility. Not only do you win a trophy, I think you have the obligation of understanding that you have enormous influence on people's lives—people you don't even know. People look at the champs and say, "How does a champ behave? What is a champ supposed to do?" Champions not only cut down nets but they can influence people's lives by sending positive signals by how they behave, not only on the court but off the court. It's a big responsibility. It's a huge responsibility. And that's why these two teams are so fortunate to have great teamwork and great players.

I know this was a team effort, and I'm sure the two players I'm going to mention, Battier and Riley, are going to be somewhat concerned that the President has singled them out. But I want to remind people who may not know their histories that not only were they great players, they're great people; not